

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 7, 10, 14, 16, 19, 21, and 22 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are pending and under consideration in the present application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

In the Office Action at page 2, numbered item 2, claims 1-4, 7-11, and 14-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,751,593 to Pullera, et al. This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

In the Office Action at page 3, the Examiner indicated that dependent claims 5, 6, 12, and 13 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. The Examiner stated that the reason for allowance of this subject matter is that the prior art of record fails to teach the combination of those dependent claims and all of the other features of the corresponding independent claims.

Thus, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 7, 10, 14, 16, 19, 21, and 22 to include matter that Applicant believes to be allowable, based on the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of dependent claims 5, 6, 12, and 13. Thus, amended independent claim 1 now recites, in relevant part, that "when a timing error is recognized in the timing test portion, based on the timing error, the circuit information is modified to insert or delete circuit elements that delay a signal in a signal propagation path relating to the timing error." Claims 7, 10, 14, 16, 19, 21, and 22 have been similarly amended to distinguish over Pullela, et al. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 7, 10, 14, 16, 19, 21, and 22 and claims 2-4, 8, 9, 11, 15, 17, 18, and 20 depending either directly or indirectly therefrom are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

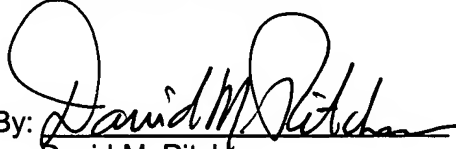
If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: September 7, 2004

By: 
David M. Pitcher
Registration No. 25,908

1201 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501